

LOHAN IS DONE LYING LOW {page 11}

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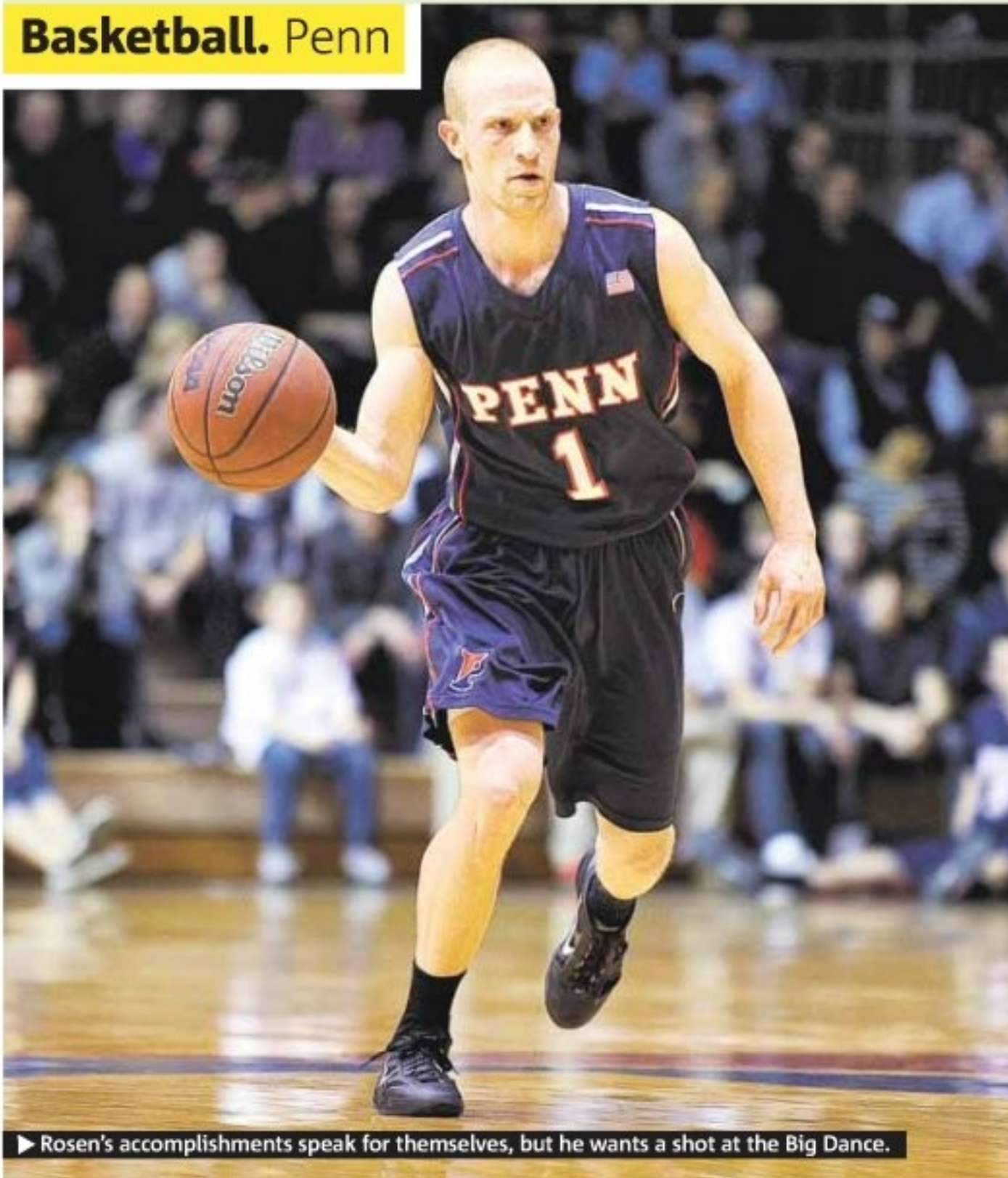
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Basketball. Penn



► Rosen's accomplishments speak for themselves, but he wants a shot at the Big Dance.

Zack Rosen. Remember that name. The Penn senior is one of the best point guards in the nation and has almost single-handedly put the Quakers back in the mix for an Ivy League title. Could he be the next Jeremy Lin? Rosen's quest resumes tomorrow night with Penn needing a victory over Princeton to force a one-game playoff with first-place Harvard. {page 22}

Delays again on the route to improve aging SEPTA

► Bridges, stations on region's mass transit system won't get overhaul in new budget ► Inaction from Gov. Corbett cited ► Lack of state funding hurts {page 02}

Contest

Win the trip of a lifetime — into space

► Out of this world: Metro offers readers chance to win a life-changing flight into space ► Wanna go? {pages 14-15}



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Big delays expected on SEPTA's bridge, train station spending

► Old infrastructure will be a casualty of capital budget cuts for next fiscal year ► Slow decision-making about mass transit funding at the state level cited as main problem

PHOTOS BY RIKARD LARMA/METRO



► SEPTA is paying \$50 million in loans for replacing old trains like this one.



► Much of the decaying infrastructure on the mass transit system will sit dormant longer.

In the news



"---Yessir lets get it RT @Cu-tonDime25: Good news speedy Jackson got tagged ... We stay together \$\$\$\$\$\$"

@MIKEVICK, IN A RETWEET OF EAGLES TEAMMATE LESEAN MCCOY, WHO TWEETED FRIDAY NIGHT ABOUT DESEAN JACKSON

In the news



Adopt or accept?

City planners are still mulling whether to urge the Planning Commission this week to "accept" or "adopt" a master plan for the Central Delaware Riverfront — according to website PlanPhilly. It may seem a subtle difference, but is crucial. Adopting the plan would mean the plan is necessary to future development. Acceptance is less stringent.

When SEPTA unveils its proposed \$303 million capital budget later this month for the year starting July 1, it will not include any upgrades for the authority's aging bridges or substations, which some critics question.

Many of SEPTA's bridges date back to the late 19th or early 20th centuries, but officials say they will be forced to defer much-needed repairs due to state funding reductions in recent years and costs for federal mandates.

"When you do positive train control, the [new payment technology] project paid for by debt service, take care of some ADA improvements,

continue to fund our vehicle overhaul program, buy some buses ... there's no money left for a bridge or a substation," SEPTA Chief Financial Officer Richard Burnfield said.

SEPTA will spend \$30 million, or roughly 10 percent of its capital funds for next year, on positive train-control, the system required by Congress on all commuter rails after a 2008 accident in California killed 25 people, Burnfield said. He also noted that SEPTA's capital budget is much less than transit systems in Boston and Washington, D.C.

While everyone agrees SEPTA could use additional funds, some say the agency's spending

priorities do not reflect its talk.

"This is classic SEPTA bait-and-switch. They ask Harrisburg for money to fix bridges and power stations, and then use it for something else," said John Scott, of the Pennsylvania Transit Expansion Coalition (P-TEC), a network of transit advocates.

Scott pointed to the \$31.5 million renovation of Wayne Junction Station, which includes a federal grant, to improve lighting, signage, platforms and accessibility.

Others, like state Sen. Mike Stack, of Philadelphia, defend the agency's decision-making.

"SEPTA and PennDOT have tried to stretch every dollar, but

the fact is they do not have enough dollars to fix all of their aging infrastructure," Stack said. "There are just so many efficiencies and innovative ways to stretch a dollar before you just need more dollars."

SOLOMON D. LEACH
sleach@metro.us

\$303M

Proposed capital budget for SEPTA to be unveiled later this month for the 2012-2013 fiscal year starting July 1

On schedule

SEPTA's capital program for the year starting July 1 includes the following:

- \$69 million, bus purchase program: Part of the agency's purchase of 245 new buses, which started last year
- \$53.6 million, vehicle overhaul program: Scheduled maintenance to help vehicles reach their full service life
- \$52.5 million, debt service: SEPTA issued bonds in 2011 to help pay for 120 Silverliner V rail cars and the Wayne Junction Station renovation.
- \$10 million, new payment technology: The first installment of the loan repayment must be completed in 2019.

Delayed

SEPTA's capital projects that are again being deferred:

- \$36.1 million, Jenkintown Traction Power Substation: The substation needs costly replacement parts. It affects three SEPTA rail lines and 11.1 million riders annually.
- \$9.5 million, Norristown High Speed Line Bridge: The structure built in 1906 has severe corrosion. It affects the Norristown High Speed Line and 8,530 trips per day.
- \$100 million, City Hall and 15th Street stations: Among SEPTA's busiest stations, they require major renovation to platforms, stairs and concrete.

Source: SEPTA's 2012-2015 capital program

Promises without timetables

While acknowledging that additional funding for highways, bridges and mass transit is vital, Gov. Tom Corbett has yet to give a timetable for addressing the issue.

In his budget address last month, Corbett stated,



► Corbett

"Transportation must be confronted as its own distinct and separate topic." Sen. Mike Stack, of

Philadelphia, said he worries that the governor's timing may be too late.

"We are waiting for the governor to show leadership, to unveil a plan that can help us move the issue forward. Unfortunately, he continues to remain silent," Stack said.

He added: "He may only act after he hears the rescue sirens responding to a bridge collapse."

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Enjoy paradise, Philly: Hawaiian flowers bloom

► City's biggest single tourist draw annually, the Flower Show, opened yesterday ► Runs through next Sunday ► 'Islands of Aloha' theme

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► A blossoming flower show enthusiast played with an interactive exhibit at the opening yesterday.

Less than a month after the Pennsylvania Convention Center was filled with gleaming futuristic automobiles slowly spinning on bright white rotating pedestals, it has undergone another stunning translation.

The 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show, themed "Hawaii: Islands of Aloha," has overgrown the Convention Center with a tropical plant canopy, floral volcanoes, bamboo — and technology. The city's largest annual tourist draw, which is expected to attract 300,000 visitors this week, opened to the public yesterday.

Visitors entered through a hall of wavy arches bearing videos of undulating water, passing fish and floating clouds into a veritable rainforest of 25-foot-high waterfalls, volcanoes made of flowers and pristine beaches.

"These flowers are just so absolutely lovely, it makes you think of paradise," visitor Mia Bird said. "Everyone wants to get away — this is like an oasis. ... It's wonderful because a lot of people will never get to Hawaii, and this is bringing Hawaii to Philly."

But not all patrons were Philadelphians, nor were they all there simply to enjoy the scenery.

"We're actually growers looking for ideas," said landscaper Steve Cheadle of Long Island, N.Y. "We grow perennials, unique annuals and some nursery-style plants. What struck us was the quality of everything — you can see this kind of stuff in trade shows and craft markets; but here, everything is much, much more high quality."

As in recent years, the show also gives many digital

Your starring role

The Flower Show has several new interactive features:

- **The Designer's Studio:** A showcase with floral arrangers, growers and other experts demonstrating how to create the trendiest designs for the home, as well as for special events.
- **The "Man Cave":** A home theater with a projection screen measuring nearly 100 inches that will air Flyers, Sixers and NCAA Conference Tournament games in digital surround sound. Also includes virtual competitions from "Tiger Woods PSA Tour" video game and poker and blackjack with professional dealers sponsored by SugarHouse.
- **World's largest lettuce wall:** A 9-foot-wide, 40-foot-tall hydroponically grown wall featuring six varieties of lettuce stands next to a wall of herbs and that includes 30 vegetables on the walls and in pots, bucket and boots.
- **Culinary demonstrations:** "Organic Gardening," teaches viewers recipes and how to pickle, preserve and freeze items from their garden.

ways to enjoy the exhibits. The new Flower Show App is the platform for voting on the show's best creations. Described as "Iron Chef" with flowers instead of frying pans," by a PHS release, professionals will judge three creations daily, though the winner will ultimately be chosen by audience members.



ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

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"...the Sixers' willingness to scrap on every possession reaffirmed that a lot of NBA teams simply don't have the energy or effort to match that work ethic. The Sixers make you play hard every night, and if you don't, they beat you."

- John Smallwood, Philadelphia Daily News 1/21/2012

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**WELLS FARGO
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Kickstarting pizza museum, pride for Philly pie-making

► Dream of a pizzeria, museum has yet to get cooking
 ► Guinness Records calls his collection largest in world

As soon as we stepped into the newly expanded Fishtown space that will soon house Fishtown's Pizza Brain, the ever-energetic owner Brian Dwyer was eager to give us a slice of his mind.

He was both excited and concerned about the recent explosion of publicity surrounding his pizzeria and pizza museum — very surprisingly the supposed first in the world.

Dwyer has launched a Kickstarter campaign to help raise \$15,000 for "finishing touches" on the pie-in-the-sky shrine, which was nearly 65

"For pizza's sake, help us all — doughnate." DWYER

percent funded with 28 days left to go yesterday.

"Kickstarter is a tangible way the community can help Pizza Brain open and put their fingerprint on it," Dwyer said.

Plus, there are prizes for each donation tier that range from a hug and free food to lockets of the owners' hair and items Dwyer and his team found in the walls and ground

while renovating their mid-19th century building, including small animal skulls, tiny teacups and glass bottles.

There's no doubting Dwyer's passion for pizza, which goes deeper than a simple love of the food itself.

"It's not just a funny fluff thing — pizza permeates all things," he said while shuffling through crates of pizza-themed books, vinyl records, T-shirts and vintage movie posters. "Pizza is so inherently communal that it's the perfect vehicle to get the community together and especially the



► Dwyer, with his Guinness World Record over his left shoulder, has many colorful nicknacks.

neighborhood."

With a Guinness World Record for largest collection of pizza memorabilia and a recent profile prominently featured on the Huffington Post, Dwyer has been inundated with calls. "Since that day, our website and e-mail have been going nuts. I've seen articles about it in Malaysia, Amsterdam — in languages I don't even know," he marveled, though it hasn't really translated into donations.



ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
 awigglesworth@metro.us

Putting Philly on the map?

"Philadelphia is not one of the world's great pizza cities," Huffington post wrote recently about Dwyer's mission.

"In America, the Italianate constellation of New York, Chicago, New Haven, Conn. and Providence, R.I. has long reigned at the top. And it could also be argued that

Trenton, N.J., and Phoenix, the homes of giants DeLorenzo's and Pizzeria Bianco respectively, have bigger slices of the pie than Philadelphia," the website said.

► "It's ridiculous," Dwyer responded. "If you don't think there's good pizza in Philly, you're just lazy. The pizza landscape in Philly is changing fast and the world's first pizza museum is a great way to put us on the map — take that, New York City and Chicago!"

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Super Tuesday looking up for Romney

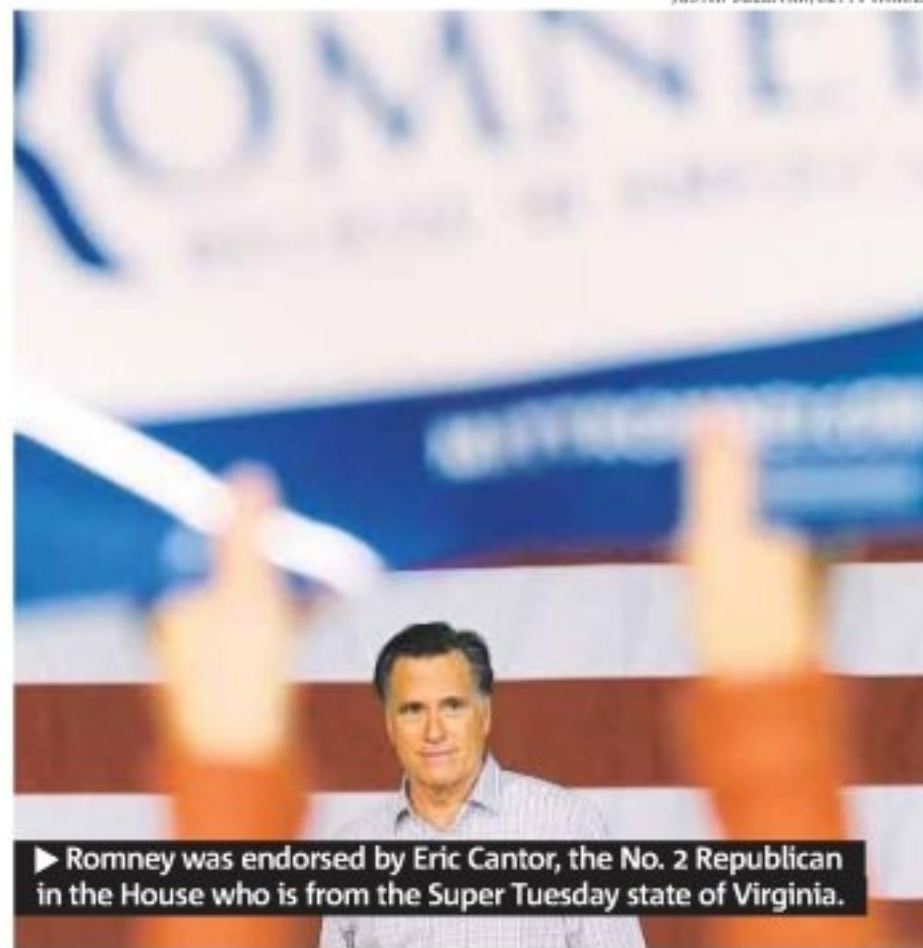
Mitt Romney closed in on Rick Santorum in Ohio and picked up a crucial endorsement in Virginia yesterday as he grows in strength ahead of "Super Tuesday," the biggest day yet in the race for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll found Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, is tied with Santorum at 32 percent support from likely voters in



the Ohio Republican primary, the most important of the 10 state nominating contests tomorrow.

Santorum, a former Pennsylvania senator who is a social conservative with a strong blue-collar message, had been leading in polls in



► Romney was endorsed by Eric Cantor, the No. 2 Republican in the House who is from the Super Tuesday state of Virginia.

the economically hard-hit Midwestern state by double digits in recent weeks.

Santorum needs an Ohio win to prove he remains a threat to Romney after losing Michigan and Arizona to him last week.

But Romney's five straight

victories in Maine, Michigan, Arizona, Wyoming and Washington state have given him a burst of momentum despite some serious reservations about him from conservatives who have flirted with a variety of alternatives.

REUTERS

Too much 'loose talk' on Iran war

President Barack Obama warned yesterday against "loose talk" of a war with Iran ahead of a crucial meeting during which he will urge Israel's prime minister to avoid a premature strike on the Islamic Republic's nuclear facilities.

On the eve of his talks with Benjamin Netanyahu, Obama used a speech to the pro-Israel U.S. lobbying group AIPAC to pledge his staunch support for the Jewish state and to argue that international sanctions on Iran must be given more time to work.

But there was no sign he and Netanyahu were moving any closer to agreeing on their approach to Iran.

Obama said the "bluster" about a military strike was counterproductive because it has been driving up global oil prices, boosting demand for

Ahmadinejad a lame duck?

TEHRAN. Clerical Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has tightened his grip on Iran's faction-ridden politics after loyalists won over 75 percent of seats in parliamentary elections at the expense of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a near-complete count showed. The widespread defeat of Ahmadinejad supporters — including his sister, Parvin Ahmadinejad — is expected to reduce the president to a lame duck after he sowed divisions by challenging the utmost authority of Khamenei in the governing hierarchy.

Iranian oil and helping to offset the impact of sanctions on its economy.

"I firmly believe that an opportunity remains for diplomacy — backed by pressure — to succeed," Obama told the crowd of 13,000 people in a cavernous ballroom.

"I would ask that we all remember the weightiness of these issues [and] the stakes involved for Israel, for America and for the world. Already, there is too much loose talk of war," he added.

Obama did not accuse any particular person or country of the "loose talk."

Obama's meeting with Netanyahu today comes amid U.S. fears that Israel might opt to strike Iran on its own if it is not convinced of U.S. resolve to stop Tehran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

REUTERS

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Limbaugh sorry for calling girl a slut



GETTY IMAGES

Right-wing talk-show host Rush Limbaugh, roundly criticized for branding a law student a "slut" over her outspoken support of President Barack Obama's new policy on contraception coverage, apologized on Saturday for his "insulting word choices."

The furor over Limbaugh's comments, made on his influential radio program, prompted Obama to call the 30-year-old Georgetown University law student and women's rights activist, Sandra Fluke, on Friday to express his support.

"My choice of words was not the best; and in the attempt to be humorous, I created a national stir," Limbaugh said in a written statement. "I sincerely apologize to Ms. Fluke for the insulting word choices."

Fluke, who has advocated

making contraception available to all women, was caught in the middle of a contentious election-year fight between Obama and Republicans over the president's policy that requires health insurance plans to cover contraception.

Religious-affiliated organizations, the Roman Catholic Church and social conservatives have protested the policy as an infringement on religious liberty. An effort by Republicans in the Senate to overturn it failed this week.

REUTERS



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GETTY IMAGES

► A school bus is lodged in a home where it came to rest after being tossed by a tornado in Henryville, Ind.

Calm returns to tornado zone, storms left 39 dead

Calm weather gave dazed residents of storm-wracked towns a respite early yesterday as they dug out from a chain of tornadoes that cut a swath of destruction from the Midwest to the Gulf of Mexico, killing at least 39 people.

The fast-moving twisters spawned by massive thunderstorms damaged schools and a prison, splintered blocks of homes and tossed around vehicles like toys — killing 20 people in Kentucky, 14 in neighboring Indiana, three in Ohio and one in Alabama, offi-

cials said. Georgia also reported a storm-related death.

"We're not unfamiliar with Mother Nature's wrath out here in Indiana," Gov. Mitch Daniels told CNN during a visit to the stricken southeast corner of the state.

"But this is about as serious as we've seen in the years since I've been in this job," he said, standing against the backdrop of the hard-hit town of Henryville, which declared a nighttime curfew to prevent looting.

REUTERS

News in brief

Chavez has cancer again

CARACAS. President Hugo Chavez said he will need radiation treatment for cancer in the run-up to Venezuela's October presidential poll, though he insisted there was no metastasis after the removal of another tumor.

"I will live! I will overcome!" the 57-year-old socialist leader said in a televised meeting with some cabinet colleagues from Cuba, where he underwent an operation six days ago for a recurrence of the cancer

that struck him last year.

REUTERS

Putin wins Russian election

MOSCOW. Vladimir Putin claimed victory in Russia's presidential election yesterday and, tears rolling down his cheeks, said it was a historical turning point that had prevented the country falling into the hands of enemies trying to usurp power.

The prime minister's opponents said there had been widespread fraud in the election. They refused to recognize the results and vowed to press on with the biggest protests since he rose to power 12 years ago.

REUTERS

What's so super about tomorrow?

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Today is the Monday directly preceding Super Tuesday — in which the four remaining Republican presidential candidates will vie for their slice of the proportional delegate pie — and you know what that means: endless speculation on the outcome of tomorrow's votes. We'd hate to disappoint.

Super Tuesday, historically the day on which the largest

amount of delegates is awarded to primary candidates, is a bit stunted this year: In 2008, 24 states held contests on the heroically designated day, with 41 percent of total party delegates at stake; this year only 10 states are participating, representing 419 delegates, or 36 percent of the total needed to win the nomination, 1,144. Alaska, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and Virginia will vote.

Of the above listed states, the one that will likely get the most media coverage today is Ohio — and not just because, like this great nation herself, it's both round (on the ends) and high (in the middle). As pundits will repeat ad nauseum, Ohio is a bellwether state: No Republican nominee has ever become president without winning it. It also represents the second-largest delegate haul of the day, with 63 to Georgia's 76. Moreover,



► Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney strides down the trophy hallway at Brookwood High School in Snellville, Ga., for a campaign event as if he won them himself — which, given his delegate count, he very well may have.

the diverse state is seemingly up for grabs, as opposed to the Southern state where Gingrich thinks he dominates: According to a Reuters-Ipsos poll released yesterday, Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum are in "a dead heat" in the Rust Belt swing state, tied with 32 percent support from likely voters.

Regardless of who wins which states, however, the campaign narrative will not change dramatically. Even if Romney wins all 419 delegates, for instance, a virtual impossibility, he'll have shored up only 612 delegates, around half the total necessary. And Rick Santorum,

whose campaign gathered impressive momentum after triple wins last month, is at a disadvantage given a pair of missteps — failing to secure a spot on the ballot in Virginia, meaning he cedes those 46 delegates, and also not qualifying in some Ohio congressional districts. Gingrich, for his part, has been waiting for this day, though exactly why is not perfectly clear: Even if he dominates in Georgia he'll still only have 93 delegates, about equal to Santorum's total as of today.

All of which is to say that Super Tuesday isn't shaping up to be particularly spectacular for any of the candidates — except, perhaps, for Romney; who, with his already commanding lead and (bruised though it may be) mantle of inevitability, may be able to scoop up enough votes to ensure his slow-but-steady eventual nomination.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

GET FED

Because sometimes you don't have time for much more than skimming the headlines:

- "Romney catches Santorum in Ohio dead heat" **REUTERS**
- "Romney the Inevitable: A Back to the Future GOP Moment" **NATIONAL JOURNAL**
- "Santorum Concedes Need For Obamacare" **THINK PROGRESS**
- "Rick Santorum, Mitt Romney tied in new Ohio poll" **WASHINGTON POST**
- "Super Tuesday ad spending nearly tops \$10 million" **ASSOCIATED PRESS**
- "Why Romney Wants to Be Like Michael Dukakis" **NYTIMES.COM**
- "Santorum backs nullifying existing gay marriages" **SFGATE.COM**



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THE WORD



Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip [@monicaatmetro](#) monica.weymouth@metro.us

— Dorothy Robinson will return tomorrow.



The feed ...

► Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Jason Segel is looking to grow as an actor, Elizabeth Banks is seeing pink, Sarah Silverman isn't impressed with Twitter braggers and Conan O'Brien has his priorities in order.

@jasonsegel
I've decided it's finally time for me to get a real "leading man" body. Like Marlon Brando in The Godfather.

@ElizabethBanks
Neon is new...again. I'm being inspired by all things hot pink

@SarahKSilverman
Dear people who Retweet the compliments you get: why do you do that?

@ConanOBrien
I would gladly trade all my fame and fortune for even more fame and fortune.



Segel



Once a 'Jackass,' always a jackass

Considering he's 32 years old, **Bam Margera's** 2012 is off to a suspicious start. After his Mardi Gras pool-hopping arrest in New Orleans, the former "Jackass" star spent last weekend fighting over a girl — with a pro boxer.

Sources tell TMZ that Margera and a woman were hanging out in Adelaide, Australia, when her ex-boyfriend, an unidentified featherweight champion, approached them. Surprisingly, the boys weren't able to talk this one through, and a fight broke out. The sources go on to say that Margera "didn't get hurt that bad" and "held his own."

Well, for now, at least. Forget jealous Australian boxers — Margera is married to a West Chester girl.

Should have stuck with music lessons

A thief pretending to be Grammy Award-winning violinist



Joshua Bell snuck into his hotel room in Spain last week and helped himself to quite a few valuables. After gaining access to the room,

the impersonator called security and asked for help opening the safe, reports TMZ. Included in the loot? A \$38,000 watch.

"I was amazed at how easy it was for this to occur," Bell tells the site.

And we're amazed that a violinist can drop \$38,000 on a watch. What does this guy drive?

Why are we talking about Kirk Cameron?

Kirk Cameron shared his views on homosexuality and gay marriage during an appearance on "Piers Morgan Tonight" on Friday. "I think that it's detrimental and ultimately destructive to so many of the foundations of civilization,"

said the former child actor.

GLAAD had a snappy comeback, while Morgan supported his guest's decision to voice his opinions — which we suppose we need to get behind in the name of free speech or whatever. But in the future, Morgan, let's just ask the kid from "Growing Pains" what's good on the brunch menu and move on.



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Take us in, Angelina!

What do you do when you're too famous to hit up Six Flags in peace? Build a theme park on the sprawling grounds of your French chateau. **Brad Pitt** and **Angelina Jolie** are installing a solar-powered play-

ground-to-end-all-playgrounds that will include "a massive pool, slides, tunnels, boat rides, a pirate island with a castle, a go-cart track and an old-fashioned carousel," according to Perez Hilton's source.

Angie, I take back the leg jokes! Any chance you want to adopt a twentysomething?

Talking points

Demi Moore checks into vacation

Demi Moore has reportedly checked out of the Cirque Lodge rehab facility in Utah and immediately headed off "on vacation" to an undisclosed location, according to E! News. "She's in no rush to get back to L.A.," a source says. "She's on total lockdown and only talking to a small group of people." The actress checked into the facility in January to deal with an eating disorder



► Nick Cannon and wife Mariah Carey may need to take more time for relaxation — on doctors' orders.

and addiction issues after a headline-grabbing hospitalization. Her rep had no comment on the location change.

Health is first for Nick Cannon

Nick Cannon is opening up about his recent trips to the

emergency room. "It's a lot of stuff, but it's all in order now," Cannon tells People mag. "They kind of say [my] autoimmune [disease] is — like a lupus type of thing, but no one else in my family has it." Cannon was first hospitalized for "mild kidney failure" in January, and then again a few weeks later because of a blood clot in his lungs. "The blood clot thing was probably the scariest, because I've known people who have passed away from that," Cannon says. His doctors' advice? Quit some of his jobs, like a gig hosting a NY radio show, which he recently gave up. "I'm just trying to make sure I put my health first," he says.

Justin Bieber is all grown up, talking about a family

Newly minted adult **Justin Bieber** is looking forward to some alone time now that he's 18. "Eighteen requires a lot of responsibilities. Moving out requires me to be alone — without my parents. So, legally, I can make any decision I want," he tells MTV News. "My mom's still going to be there, probably, calling me every day. Probably won't be able to get away from her for too long." And now that he's all grown up, Bieber is looking even further into the future: "I see myself in 10 years having a family," he says.

Can Lindsay Lohan make a comeback?

► She's under probation, but has already started her media campaign to be taken seriously ► Metro checked in with a psychotherapist to gauge the actress' chances

Do you remember Lindsay Lohan when she was a talented child actress, before the puffy face and handcuffs? We're struggling.

The 25-year-old is now better known as an addict than as an actress, but has the combination of jail time, therapy and community service at a morgue

finally made her come to her senses?

Psychotherapist Sherry Gaba has doubts over Lohan's sobriety. "When a person is sober, they usually know their sobriety date without question. She did not give it in her most recent interview, so I am not so sure that she is," says Gaba of

last week's chat with Matt Lauer for "The Today Show."

On the other hand, Lohan's career seems to be back on track, and she's being tipped for the coveted role of Elizabeth Taylor in the upcoming "Elizabeth and Richard: A Love Story" — provided she behaves. "Getting and staying sober is



► Lohan was happy to poke fun at herself while hosting "Saturday Night Live" over the weekend.

a one-day-at-a-time program," says Gaba. "Lindsay will need to continue to stay close to a recovery program that will need to include 12-step meetings, a sponsor and possibly psychotherapy to deal with the underlying issues that have led to

her numerous relapses."

Gaba believes there is no guarantee that Lohan will stay clean forever: "Only if she is willing to make her recovery her No. 1 priority will she have an excellent chance of living a fulfilling and sober life."

Child star trouble

Like other troubled former child stars (Drew Barrymore, Corey Haim, Corey Feldman and Britney Spears, just to name a few), Lindsay's unusual upbringing may have contributed to her current problems.

"Child stars often become 'adult children' with highly stressful responsibilities. As young adults, they sometimes attempt to re-capture their lost childhoods by acting out and behaving in self-destructive ways, which may be one of the reasons Lindsay has been so troubled," says Gaba.

ROMINA MCGUINNESS

METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Time line: Lohan throughout the years



Circa 1998 at "The Parent Trap" premiere



Laughing it up with Tina Fey at the "Mean Girls" premiere in April of 2004



With then-boyfriend Wilmer Valderrama in July 2004; she turned 18 days earlier, while he was 24.



At the "Herbie Fully Loaded" premiere in 2005. Lohan was all but nixed from the posters due to "un-Disney-like behavior."



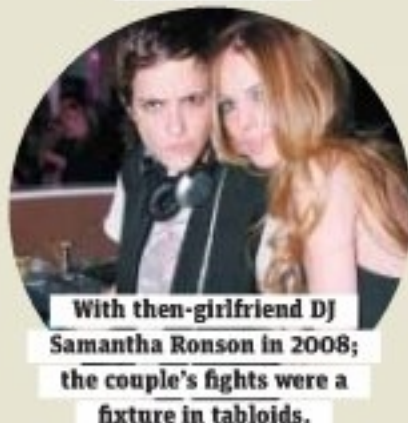
In 2006, Lohan was hospitalized during the filming of "Georgia Rule" and spotted at rehab.



In May 2007, weeks before being arrested for DUI and entering rehab



July 24, 2007: Lohan was again arrested for DUI.



With then-girlfriend DJ Samantha Ronson in 2008; the couple's fights were a fixture in tabloids.



July 20, 2010: After violating probation, Lohan served 14 days in jail.



Sept. 24, 2010: After failing a drug test and violating her probation, Lohan spent part of the day in jail before being released.



Probation revoked, Lohan was sent to jail with bail set at \$100,000 on Oct. 19, 2011.



Looking put together in court last month, Lohan was commended for participating in her court-mandated community service.

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► No need to pout — "The Lorax" conquered the box office over the weekend.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND ILLUMINATION ENTERTAINMENT

Dr. Seuss' 'The Lorax' tops weekend box office

The animated movie version of the Dr. Seuss story "The Lorax" climbed to the top of weekend box office charts with a stronger-than-expected \$70.7 million in U.S. and Canadian ticket sales, studio estimates released yesterday showed.

"The Lorax" topped second-place film "Project X," a new comedy that brought in \$20.8 million at domestic theaters from Friday through Sunday. "Act of Valor," a military drama in its second weekend in theaters, took third place with \$13.7 million.

Universal Pictures, a division of Comcast Corp., released "The Lorax." "Project X" was

Best debut of 2012 so far

The \$70.7 million take for "The Lorax" marked the strongest weekend box office opening for a film so far this year. "The Vow" had held the honor going into the weekend, debuting with \$41 million in ticket sales when it opened last month. **METRO**

distributed by Time Warner Inc. unit Warner Bros. and "Act of Valor" was released by privately held Relativity Media. **REUTERS**

TV watch list

'The Voice'

REALITY. Now that the blind auditions are over, does anyone else suspect that the swivel chairs go into storage in Cee Lo's rumpus room? And that he has a rec area in his house that he calls a rumpus room? More to the point, it's time for the celebrity judges/mentors to finalize their teams during the battle rounds, which kick off tonight. Aiding the contestants are even more celebrity mentors, including Kelly Clarkson, Jewel, Ne-Yo and Alanis Morissette. **8 p.m., NBC**

'Love Broker'

REALITY. To counterbalance Patti Stanger, Bravo takes a kinder, gentler (but still a little kooky) approach to matchmaking by introducing NYC love guru Lori Zaslow. Series premiere, **10 p.m., Bravo**

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Source: Scarborough R2 2011

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#1 DAILY NEWS

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THE FINAL FRON

► Win a life-changing trip into space, courtesy of Metro ► Tell us why you should be Metro's first astronaut and you could follow in NASA's footsteps

Metro, the No. 1 free daily newspaper in the United States today gives one lucky reader the chance to win what is truly a trip of a lifetime — a journey into space.

Metro and our sister titles at the Metro International group, have partnered with SXC — Space Expedition Curacao — to take a reader on a flight from the company's base into space and back.

Metro readers are asked to submit an inspiring reason why they'd like to go into space to our special website: <http://metroinspace.com/us>.

Readers are then challenged to gather as many Facebook likes and votes as possible using social media.

Each Metro country around the world will select a local winner who will then go before a global jury comprised of members of SXC and Metro staff.

The jury will conduct in-

Quoted

"Being in space is an experience that has truly changed my life. I flew the space shuttle three times but the first time was by far the most impactful."

RICK SEARFOSS, NASA ASTRONAUT

depth interviews with finalists before electing the winning astronaut.

The finalists will be announced in the edition of April 12 this year in a global special edition dedicated to the topic of space and the future of space travel.

The space flight will be taken aboard SXC's vehicle, the Lynx.

And before that our winner will travel to Holland for an in-

depth preparation and training exercise, which will include a session in a state of the art space flight simulator, as well as a training flight in a high-performance jet, to simulate the most important phases of space flight.

Rick Searfoss, a NASA astronaut and a commander of the space shuttle, who is also chief test pilot of the Lynx, told Metro: "Being in space is an experience that has truly changed my life. I flew the space shuttle three times but the first time was by far the most impactful. I'm a little bit jealous of the person that's going to win. The Metro Race for Space: for him or her, this unique experience is still to come."

Michiel Mol, one of the founders of SXC said today: "It's our mission to make space accessible for the world. Working together with what is probably the world's most accessible news medium is a perfect match." ● METRO

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There will also be two training missions in Holland. They will be held on consecutive days and the winner will receive a return air ticket to Holland plus hotel accommodation. The winner will take part in a mission tactics training course as well as two training missions. These are:

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► High performance jet flight training is part of the prize

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► Go to our special website: <http://metroinspace.com/us> and tell us why, in the most inspiring way possible, you deserve a flight into space. Get as many Facebook likes as possible.

Soesterberg, Holland, the simulator is the first to offer a full range of motion and is capable of generating g-forces up to 3.3G.

► A preparatory flight in the L-

39 Albatross jet, a single engine, tandem-seat jet trainer that is ideally suited to preparing our winner for a space flight in the Lynx. Our winner will fly in the back seat behind a professional instructor, and get used to flying in a high-performance aircraft. During this trial flight, our winner will simulate the most important phases of space flight and get to pull some Gs.

► As an optional part of the prize, our winner will be invited to report on his or her experiences to all of Metro's millions of readers in 22 countries and on four continents.

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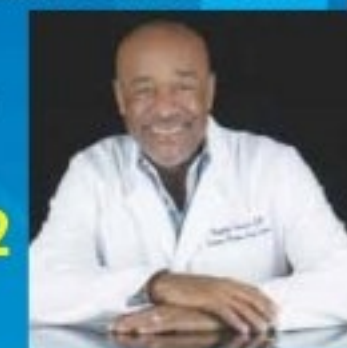
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my metro

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012

mywellbeing

Fire up your friendships

- It's time to take your relationship to the next level ► By that, we mean your relationship with your best bud
- How to bring back the spark

Coming down from the Valentine's Day mayhem can be a bit trippy for single folks. Sometimes the holiday can create a sense of separation and loneliness. Feel familiar? Here's a way to add more romance in every area of your life.

The thought that one person can be your source of inspiration, excitement and bliss is totally wacky. Don't just seek romance in one special love partner — open up to the possibility for more within your friendships.

Zen in the city



GABRIELLE BERNSTEIN

WWW.GABBYB.TV

This week, go on a date with a friend. The goal? To shake yourself out of your routines and recognize how fulfilling friendships can be. Enjoy your friend's company in a whole new way by focusing the same attention onto the friendship as



► Go out on a friend date this week.

you would a romantic partner. OK, no — you won't be making out with your best friend. But you can be equally inspired by your pal's personality and unique traits. By perceiving your friendship as more romantic, you'll strengthen your sense of companionship and oneness.

The benefit of shifting your perspective in friendship is not only that you have more fun, but that you let your romantic partner (or, if you're single, your future romantic partner) off the hook. When you bring

more romance into your friendships, you no longer need a romantic partner to be your only source of happiness. This shift guides you to radiate a more confident energy and release neediness.

So set yourself free from the false perception that one special person will save you. Level the playing field and ignite fiery sparks in all your relationships!

— Gabrielle Bernstein is the author of "Spirit Junkie."

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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Interviewing for beginners

► Job interviews will never be easy, but the first few after graduating are especially tough ► Author Lindsey Pollak on 'Getting from College to Career'



CREATAS

► Before the interview ends, have some thoughtful questions prepared.

The dreaded job interview is a crucial hurdle to entering the job market. Author Lindsey Pollak has plenty of advice for first-time job-hunters, from polishing your résumé to picking out an outfit. Her book, "Getting from College to Career," was recently re-released by HarperCollins and updated to reflect the changing economy and technologies.

What's the first step to preparing for a job interview?
The biggest mistake people make is saying, "I'll just be myself. I'll wing it." You need to research the organization:

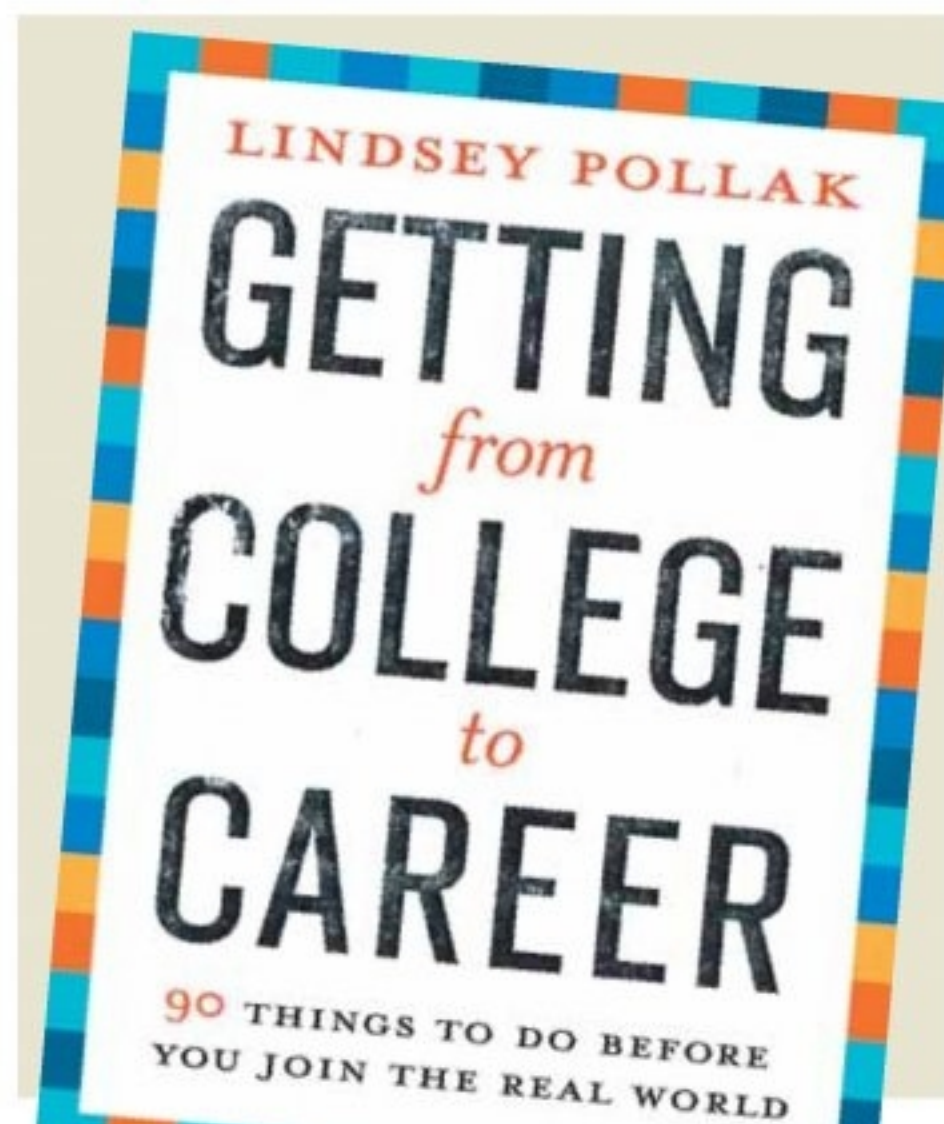
Visit its website, follow it on Twitter or Facebook, find out something about its products and services, culture, competitors and CEO.

How can you weave that information into the conversation in a natural way?
A lot of people go into interviews only thinking about themselves: "How am I going to make them think that I'm great?" But if you can think about it from their perspective, you can really help yourself. They don't just want someone great; they want a great fit for who they are. The goal is to sound more like a peer or an industry in-

sider, rather than someone starting from the beginning.

What are some common beginner mistakes?
I'm always surprised how many recruiters say people are late or dressed improperly. Another obvious no-no is leaving your cell phone on during the interview. Don't tell them you're interested in other fields. It's OK to have other interests, but your job in the interview is to get that specific job. Don't talk about anything salary-related in the initial interview.

 **BRUCE WALSH**
bruce.walsh@metro.us



Three steps to sealing the deal:

- 1 Call ahead**
If you're unsure what to wear to the interview, don't be afraid to call and ask for some guidelines for appropriate dress.
- 2 Prepare your endgame**
At the conclusion of almost any interview, the interviewer will ask if you have any questions about the job and company. Be prepared for this moment. It's a good time to show off your research and interest.
- 3 Say thank you**
Make sure to send a thank-you e-mail — or even a card — a day or two after the interview.

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3 Qualities of happy workplaces

► Many employees find their jobs unrewarding ► How companies can keep workers engaged in any job market

There's not much that annoys employees more than a broken coffee machine — unless you're counting the job itself. According to a recent survey by Right Management's talent and career services, the majority of American employees describe their present work situation as unrewarding and draining.

Talent management expert Ron Sims attributes the workplace blues primarily to feelings of confinement. With drastic reductions in staff over the last several years, "companies are doing a lot more with a lot less people, so workers can't afford to leave," he says.

Though most employees would gladly take their unhappy selves elsewhere, "there's a fear that there are no options



► Happy employees make for happy offices.

available," says Sims. "Folks used to have the option of walking in and walking out, whereas the lack of choice now drives disengagement."

Despite the slump, companies can still incorporate optimism into the picture. Accord-

ing to Sims, the happiest workplaces are:

1 Appreciative: "People feel valued. What we have found critical is the importance of recognition and acknowledgment, even in gestures as simple as coming around and thanking people for their time and work."

2 Honest: "Management is open and transparent. The company encourages everyone to discuss concerns."

3 Proactive: "Though the situation is tight, there are still career management opportunities to learn and develop within the company."

TIFFANY KANG
letters@metro.us

Always look on the bright side of work

It's not as tough as it seems. "Folks who handle this the

best are those that understand the context, though they're not necessarily pleased, and try to make the best out of the situation.

Instead of complaining, there may be something you can do in the job to make yourself more satisfied and, frankly, more happy."

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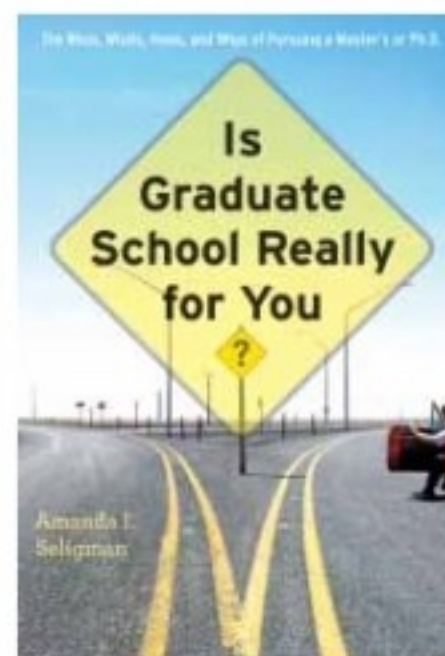


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Grad school: Is it the right choice for you?

► It's a question that some students forget to ask ► History professor Amanda Seligman on her new book



Amanda Seligman originally intended her book to be for the families of graduate students. Her idea was to provide a basic intro to academia, so family members could avoid embarrassing questions and hurtful assumptions. But she soon found another demographic in search of a primer to the ivory tower: grad students themselves.

The result — "Is Graduate School Really for You?: The Whos, Whats, Hows, and Whys of Pursuing a Master's or Ph.D." — was released earlier this year by Johns Hopkins Press.

"There are a lot of advice

books out there about how to be a graduate student, but they all assume that everyone wants to be a research professor, do nothing but research and not really interact with people," says Seligman, an associate professor of history at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. "But through my students, I've come to understand that it's not appropriate for grad school to be the sole focus of anyone's life."

Laid out in a question-and-answer format, the book takes readers on a practice journey through many of the slaloms and hurdles of the academy:

the initial decision, paying for the degree, navigating the coursework and writing the thesis.

"It's not a how-to book. This book is saying, 'This is what graduate school in the United States is like.' You are the only person who knows what you are like inside, so you need to find out if that's a match," says Seligman. "It's not that there's a right reason or wrong reason to go to graduate school, but you should know what your reasons are."



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Letters

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The gas problem:
Whose fault is it?

As a consumer who depends on driving to get to work, I am appalled how we are being ripped off at the pump — and I feel the reasons are most troubling. There are the threats coming from Iran, and then there are the Democratic policies that do little to stop the rising costs. Then there are the Wall Street speculators who profit when the price of oil is forced up — at consumers' expense. The Democrats' answer is more fuel-efficient cars, which will take years to accomplish; then you have the Republican answer, which is drill, drill, drill — also no help in the short-term. I don't know the answer, but I think the silent majority needs to rise up and say, "Enough is enough, we are mad as hell and we won't

take it anymore." Remember we have the power, and we will be listened to!

FREDERICK R. BEDELL, VIA E-MAIL

How stupid are we to let the bankster-puppet president, and puppet Congress and puppet media scare us into giving them an excuse to raise the price of gasoline to \$5 just in time for summer vacation? They had to start early and take a few months to ramp it up. If Americans stand for this, they are as stupid as the oiligarchs think they are. **CHARLES MICHAEL COUCH, VIA E-MAIL**

To anyone who doubts that Republicans always lie, ask yourself why they are attacking Obama (whom I dislike immensely because he's continued most of Bush's policies) for high gas prices.

Republicans promised us the free market and competition would give us the lowest prices — yet now they are whining daily that the opposite happened: Gas prices by private corporations are not the lowest! Republicans are begging for communism out loud: They say Obama should do something to curb the greed of big corporations!

JANICE AMATO, VIA E-MAIL

Israel so small, its
enemies so large

How would U.S. citizens feel if threats as well as rockets were constantly launched against some other country aside from Israel — perhaps Italy, to be "wiped off the face of the Earth" — about the president's comment to not do anything until after the next election? All he wor-

ries about is getting re-elected. Israel never asks for U.S. soldiers, just verbal support. Israel is so small, and surrounded by very large hostile countries, yet it's expected to sit back and do nothing to protect itself. Would they feel the same way if it were another country?

JOAN BACHMAN, VIA E-MAIL

Three ways Obama
is dividing America

Three things I'd do if I were president: 1. Listen more and not dictate; 2. Secure the borders, deny employment to all illegals and their offspring; 3. Cut spending, cut government, stop printing money and stop all hand-outs to other nations except those threatened; 4. Halt the affordable health care bill and review it with bipartisan participation; 5. Stop the flood of imports from China. None of the above will be done if this administration continues past November. This administration is dividing America.

JOHN E. BOVINSKI, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

♈ Pisces Feb. 20-March 20. Co-workers are likely to follow your lead, so do your best to provide a good example. If things don't go well, you should stop a minute and give others ideas on making corrections.

♈ Aries March 21-April 19. If you depart from prudent spending, you'll watch your bank account disappear in two shakes. Get hold of yourself and put a stop to the insanity.

♈ Taurus April 20-May 20. Unfortunately, it isn't likely that you'll be able to keep your problems to a minimum, mostly due to you thinking that you can do what you want without any consequences.

♈ Gemini May 21-June 20. Be careful if matters don't go exactly as you think they should. To counteract an unexpected wrinkle, you could adopt an unwise strategy that would make matters much worse.

♈ Cancer June 21-July 22. It would be sagacious to have someone check your work if what you're doing involves a lot of facts and figures. A huge mistake could result from one tiny error.

♈ Leo July 23-Aug. 22. By deliberately acting in a manner that is diametrically opposed to persons who are trying to help you, you will only end up looking belligerent and ungrateful.

♈ Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22. You've heard it before: "If you can't say something nice about someone, don't say anything at all." This could be especially wise thinking when dealing with in-laws.

♈ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Don't try to overpower people when trying to get them to accept your suggestions. If they don't like your ideas, putting pressure on them would only make matters worse.

♈ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22. If the ideas you're espousing happen to conflict with the plans of others, trying to get your way would only add more stress to the situation. It's often wise to compromise.

♈ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21. In order to appease the demands of your associates, you might switch courses far too often to be effective. Making changes for change's sake does nothing for nobody.

♈ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19. Doing something out of spite only makes matters worse for everyone, yourself included. In fact, such a move could easily boomerang, with you getting caught in the crosshairs and ending up taking all the hits.

♈ Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 19. If it's your responsibility to do something about a situation and it doesn't go well, don't attempt to point the finger of blame at another. Correct matters yourself. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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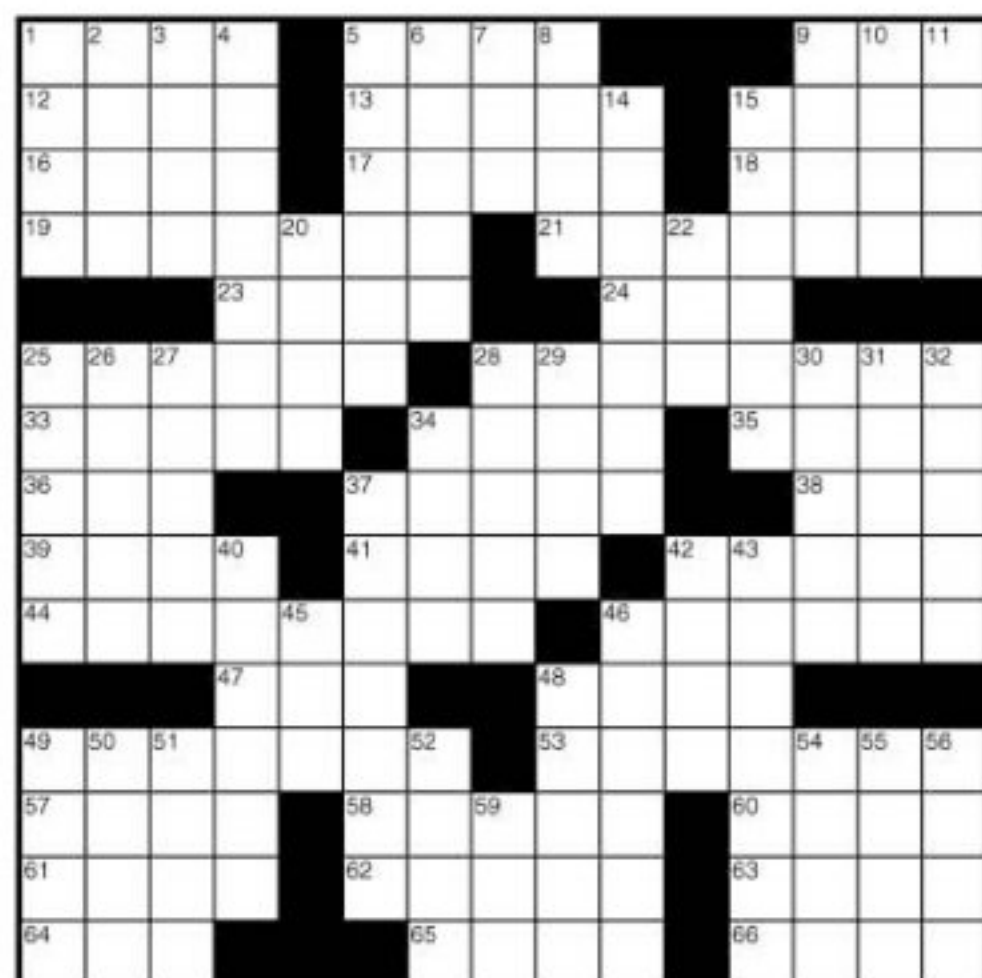
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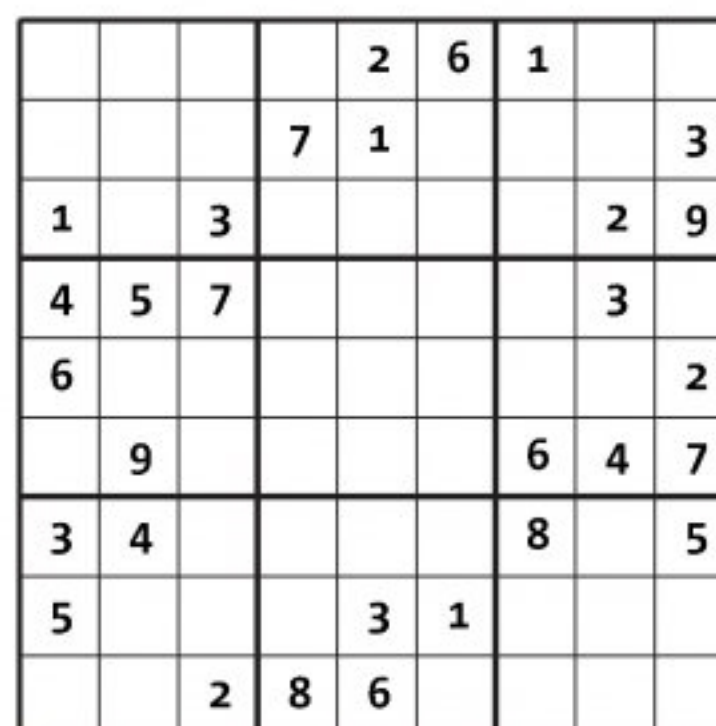
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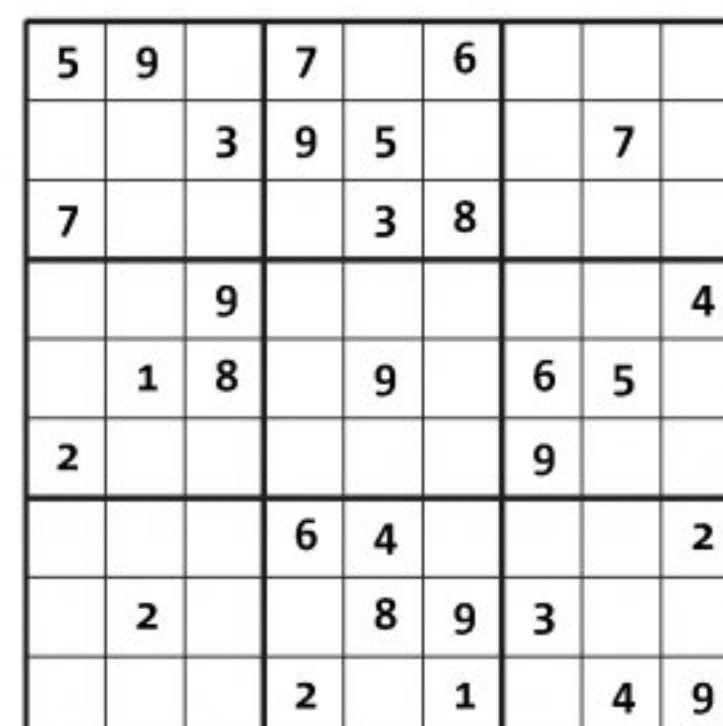
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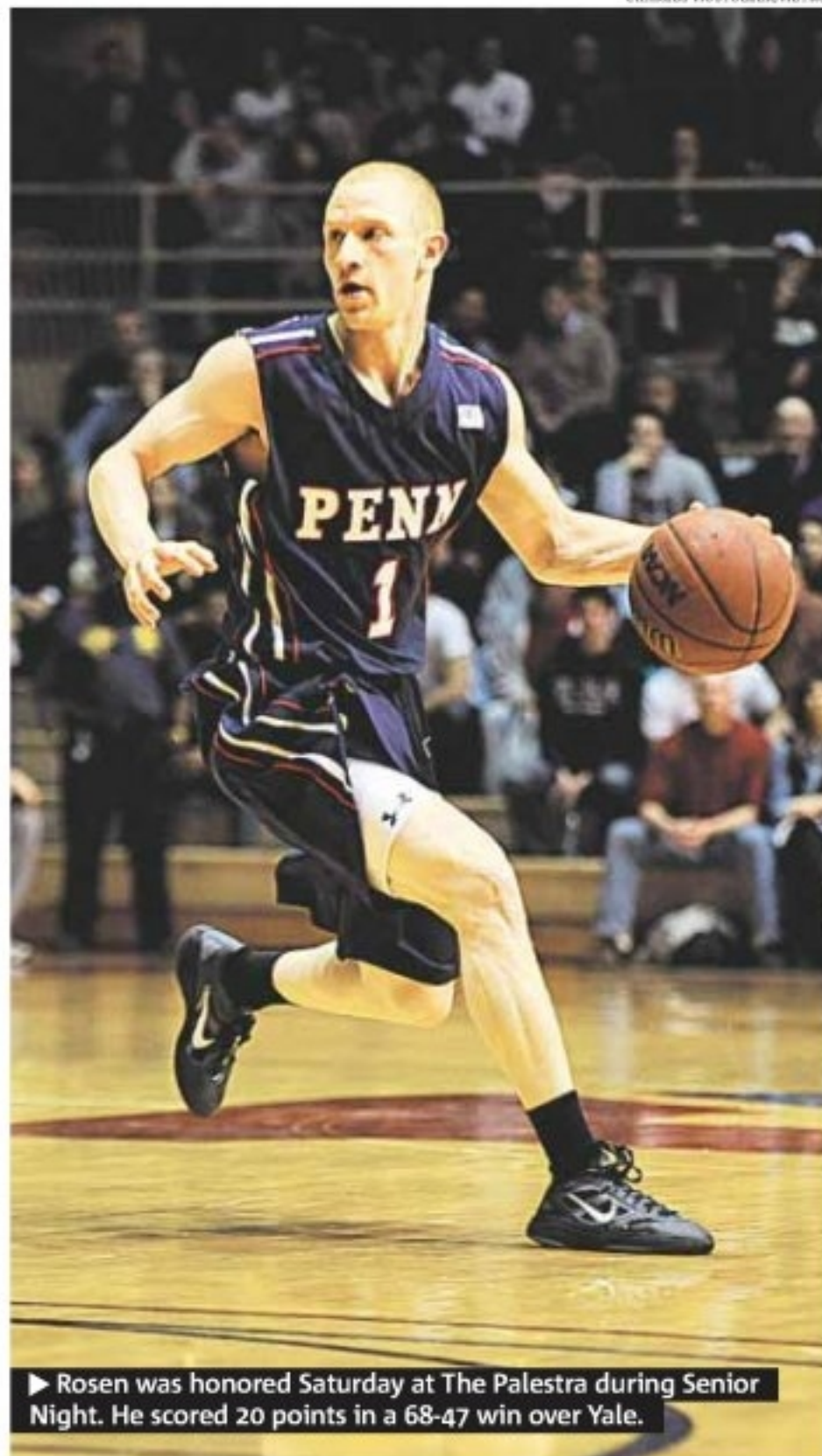
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ZACK-SANITY

► Rosen has Quakers in mix for Ivy League title ► Point guard key factor in two weekend wins ► Penn looking for its first NCAA bid since 2007

CHARLES MOSTOLIER/METRO



► Rosen was honored Saturday at The Palestra during Senior Night. He scored 20 points in a 68-47 win over Yale.

Zack Rosen has won more than his share of awards from the Big 5 and Ivy League. He has set records and continued to break milestones.

Along with Temple's Ramone Moore and Villanova's Maalik Wayns, Rosen is among the best players in the city. He's also the closest thing Philly has to Linsanity.

For now, nothing would make the Penn point guard — listed at 6-foot-1, 170 pounds — happier than accomplishing an elusive goal: advancing to the NCAA tournament. Penn hasn't earned an NCAA bid since 2007. If the Quakers (19-11 overall, 12-2 in Ancient Eight) can beat Princeton tomorrow (7:30 p.m.), they would earn a tie with Harvard and force a one-game playoff.

"I said this a few days ago and I've said it to everyone lately — this is it," Rosen said. "It's all we've got. We've got to give it everything with the guys we have, and try and go out with a bang. We've gotten a little taste of it lately, but we

haven't completed what we came here to do."

Without Rosen, Penn's chances of an NCAA bid are virtually gone. Rosen led the way in two wins this past weekend, pacing the Quakers with 19 points in Friday's 54-43 win over Brown, then scored 20 in Saturday's 68-47 win over Yale.

Two weeks ago, Rosen scored Penn's final 16 points in a win at Dartmouth. One night later, he scored the final nine points — including the game-winning free throws with 23.2 seconds left — in a stunning 55-54 victory at Harvard. The Quakers had trailed 49-40 with less than six minutes to play.

"The win over Harvard was a character test for us," Rosen said. "This group has a chance to do something special. It was a really good moment. We want to make the moment last moving forward."

ANDY JASNER
sports@metro.us

Hey NBA, don't sleep on this one

Can Zack Rosen be the next Jeremy Lin?

The point guard, who is also enrolled in Penn's famed Wharton School,

could be on a similar career path, if he can find a pro team to latch on with. However, ESPN analyst Doug Gottlieb feels Rosen could go in the first round of the NBA draft.

"Tough as nails, Rosen has a chance to be a starting point guard, as his shooting and handle off ball-screens

continues to improve," Gottlieb said in December.

Penn coach Jerome Allen has no doubt about Rosen's potential.

"Zack has the ability to play as well as any other point guard in the nation," Allen said. "If he continues to work hard, he can play at any level." ● METRO

By the numbers



4,079

Rosen's career minutes played, a program record.

1,677

Career points, third on Penn's all-time list, 85 behind Ugona Onyekwe.

575

Career assists, a program mark. His 160 this season alone are two off the single-season record.

219

Career 3-pointers, which is fourth all-time, one behind Jeff Schiffner for third.

On fire



Drexel punches CAA final ticket
That's 19 wins and counting for Drexel.

The Dragons (27-5) advanced to the CAA finals yesterday after a 68-51 rout over Old Dominion, the team's 19th straight victory.

Drexel will play Virginia Commonwealth in the tournament's championship game tonight at 7 in Richmond, Va.

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► Orange and Black to raise No. 2 to the rafters ► Hall of Famer enjoying best year of his life ► Currently he's serving as head scout for Red Wings

For Mark Howe, it's been "as good a year as any human being can possibly have."

And that year will get even better tomorrow, when the Flyers send Howe's old No. 2 to the rafters. He's just hoping he can hold it together in front of his entire family, including Hall of Fame father, Gordie, and granddaughter, Ella Colleen. She was born three days after Mark fulfilled a promise to his daughter, Azia, by scoring a goal in the Winter Classic Alumni game.

"I'm used to all the accolades going to my dad and sitting there with admiration, loving every second of it," said Howe, now head scout for the Red Wings. "Now the shoe's on the other foot, and it's different. I've never been one to clamor for attention or be singled out. In this case it's a

tremendous, tremendous honor. It's an awesome feeling."

During his stellar 10-year career with the Flyers (1982-92) Howe established himself as a premier two-way defenseman, amassing 138 goals and 342 assists to go with a staggering plus-349 rating. Yet it wasn't until November that he was inducted first into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame, then joined dad in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Now, following his penalty-shot goal at the Winter Classic, he joins the late Barry Ashbee (4) Bobby Clarke (16), Bernie Parent (1) and Bill Barber (7) as the only Flyers to have their jerseys retired.

ON TV TOMORROW

Red Wings at Flyers,
7 p.m. (CSN)

Quoted

"I've never been one to clamor for attention or be singled out. In this case it's a tremendous, tremendous honor."

MARK HOWE

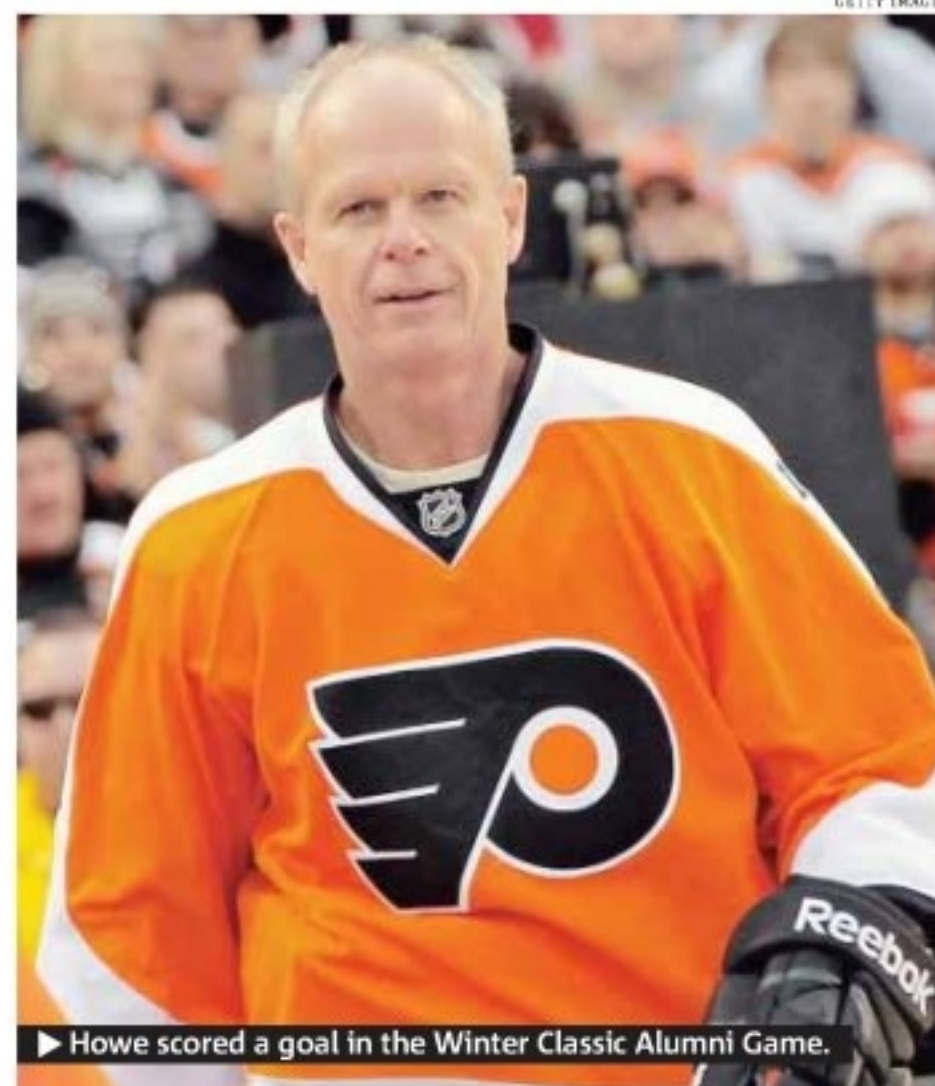
"Some of the things that have happened are a progression of life," said Howe. "But the awards coming my way through my playing career, I never ever thought those things would happen. What makes it so special is my dad's going to be here, along with my brothers, children and good friends to share it with me."

In anticipation, Mark has started working on his speech.

"I got paid a lot of compliments on my speech at the Hall of Fame in Toronto," said Howe. "It was pretty easy. I just spoke from my heart. The hardest thing is trying to control your emotions."

Tomorrow, fans will get their chance to pour their hearts out to the man who is arguably the Flyers' greatest defenseman — stamping an exclamation point to the best year of Mark Howe's life.

JON MARKS
sports@metro.us



► Howe scored a goal in the Winter Classic Alumni Game.

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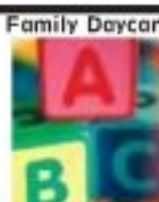
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leased and starts just south of \$200,000. The body is extremely low and wide, as if a titan had squished it down with a massive thumb. These distorted proportions appear even more exaggerated without a top. Same supercar, fewer inhibitions. Lower the roof electronically in just over 10 seconds, trigger the engine, and the next part of the equation becomes clear. There's no sound insulation between you and the engine. No surprise, it's best when your foot pins the accelerator mercilessly to the floor. Which might remind you that, like the coupe, the convertible is rated to travel at up to 197 mph. **BLOOMBERG**

News in brief



American sales see broad gains

U.S. auto sales accelerated to the fastest pace in four years, led by Chrysler and a surprise gain from General Motors, as demand strengthened throughout automakers' lineups.

GM deliveries rose 1.1 percent to 209,306 cars and light trucks, beating analysts' estimates for a 4.8 percent decrease. Chrysler sales increased 40 percent to 133,521 and Ford Motor Co. (F)'s climbed 14 percent to 178,644. Toyota Motor Corp. and Honda Motor Co. deliveries each gained 12 percent, while Nissan Motor Co. sales rose 16 percent.

Light-vehicle sales in February accelerated to a 15.1 million seasonally adjusted annual rate, exceeding the 14.2 million pace that was the average of 17 analysts' estimates. The results were the best since February 2008 when U.S. sales ran at a 15.5 million rate, according to Autodata Corp., which added that U.S. auto sales ran at a 13.3 million pace in February 2011. **BLOOMBERG**

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motoring

GM will halt Volt plug-in for five weeks

"The fact that GM is now facing an oversupply of Volts suggests that consumer demand is just not that strong for these vehicle."

LACEY PLACHE, CHIEF ECONOMIST FOR AUTO-RESEARCH WEBSITE EDMUNDS.COM

General Motors, missing sales goals for the Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid, plans to halt production of the sedan for five weeks beginning later this month rather than discount the high-technology cars.

GM will stop making Volts at its Detroit assembly plant from March 19 until April 23, Chris Lee, a company spokesman, said in an e-mail. The factory had ramped up to full-speed production Feb. 6 after the New Year's shutdown.

While sales of the Volt in February more than tripled from a year earlier to 1,023, the rate is below what's needed to meet Chief Executive Officer Dan Akerson's goal of 45,000 deliveries in the U.S. this year.

GM missed its target of



► Halt the volt.

10,000 Volt sales last year, finishing out 2011 with 7,671 deliveries.

"This move is to keep proper inventory levels," Lee said in the e-mail.

GM executives have said publicity surrounding a two-month federal investigation into the safety of the Volt following a fire publicly revealed in

November had hurt the car's sales. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in January that the Volt poses no more fire risk than other cars.

GM sold 1,626 Volts through the first two months of the year in the U.S. Detroit-based GM planned to make 60,000 Volts this year for worldwide distribution, with three-quarters of them earmarked for the U.S. market.

The model, rated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as getting the equivalent of 94 miles (151 kilometers) per gallon of gasoline, starts at \$39,195, excluding destination charges, and qualifies for a \$7,500 U.S. tax credit.

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